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And is it not due to nervous exhaustion? Things always look so much brighter when we are in good health. How can you have courage when suffering with headache, nervous prostration and great physical weakness?

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Write to our Doctors. Perhaps you would like to consult some eminent physician about your condition. Then write to us for the particulars in your case. You will receive a prompt reply, without cost.

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I have several styles of Wall Paper on hand which I will sell cheap.

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If your grist mill is out of repair I can prepare to put it in first-class order. Have had 25 years experience. Write or call on me at Cedar Fork, P. O. Jackson, N. C.

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EDWARDS & BEALE, Pendleton, N. C.

To poultry Raisers.

Keep your poultry healthy and make them profitable by feeding them Rust's Egg Producer and Ground Oyster Shells, for sale by

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FIRECRACKERS IN CHINA.

How They are Made and Where They are Used.

So far as the manufacture and use of firecrackers are concerned, all the world seems to be divided into two parts, China and the United States. The Chinese make the crackers and we attend to the other end of the business. They do the work and we have the fun mostly. No other nation outside of China itself seems to have waked up yet to the possibilities of joy and bloodshed that lie in these little red-coated terrors from the Celestial Kingdom. According to a recent report from Consul General Goodnow of Shanghai, out of 26,705,733 pounds of firecrackers exported from China during 1897, over 20,000,000 pounds came to the United States. A small quantity went to England. Other countries took only infinitesimal amounts. The value of our patriotism thus exported in the concrete was over \$1,000,000 in gold as valued in China. How much more money was involved in it by the time it got down to the small boy and its final destiny dependent on his lot.

But the Chinese do not ship all their fun to this country. They love firecrackers themselves almost as much as they do their ancestors, and they keep the major part of them for home consumption. Chinese boys have been frightening their sisters and cats and bowing themselves up with firecrackers for the past fifteen or twenty thousand years. It is said that in the beginning they were used to frighten away evil spirits. Now the Chinese use them to celebrate weddings, births, funerals, New Year's, and about everything else that can think of, to relieve the monotony of life. It is a cold day in China when some one doesn't express his feelings with a firecracker.

In making crackers, only the cheapest kind of straw paper which can be produced in the immediate locality where the crackers are made is used for the body of the cracker. A little finer paper is used for the wrapper. A piece of straw paper 9 by 30 inches will make twenty-one crackers 1 1/2 inches long and one-fourth of an inch in diameter. The powder is also of the cheap grade, and is made in the locality where used. It costs 150 to 175 cash per catty, or 6 to 7 cents gold per pound.

For the fuse, a paper (called "leather" in Shanghai) is used, which is imported from Japan and is made from the inner lining of the bamboo. In other places a fine rice paper is used, generally stiffened slightly with buckwheat flour paste, which, the Chinese say, adds to its inflammability. A strip of this paper one third of an inch wide by 14 inches (a Chinese foot) long is laid on a table, and a very little powder put down the middle of it with a hollow bamboo stick. A quick twist of the paper makes the fuse ready for use.

Consul Goodnow describes a variety of crackers in use over there but not here, which would fill an American boy with transports of delight and possibly of powder too. It has two chambers separated by a plug of clay, through which runs a connecting fuse. There is also a fuse extending from the powder in the lower chamber through the side of the cracker. When the cracker is to be fired it is set on end, and fire set to the fuse. The powder exploding in the chamber throws the cracker high in the air, where the second charge is exploded by fire from the fuse extending through the plug between the two chambers. In the manufacture of these, the clay is first tamped in with a punch to form the separating plug. The lower chamber is then loaded with powder and closed by turning over the paper at the end. The upper chamber is loaded and closed with clay. A hole is punched in the side of the lower chamber with an awl, and the fuse inserted through the opening.

Considering the distance they come, and all things connected with the trade, firecrackers with

ns are remarkably cheap. Whatever the American small boy may think about it, this cheapness is hardly an unmixed blessing. It makes an American citizen almost ashamed of himself anyway when he learns of the hours of labor and miserable wages paid to the firecracker makers. The hours of labor are from 6 A. M. to 11 P. M., and there are seven working days in each week. Of the paid work, a very large proportion is done by women and children who are paid by the piece. It is estimated that thirty women and ten men can make 100,000 crackers per day; for which work the women receive 5 cents each and the men about 7 cents each. An apprentice is bound for four years, and during that time receives only his board. At the end of that period he will receive, if he is a fairly good workman, 150 cash per day, or 7 cents in United States money. An expert at the trade receives 200 cash per day, or 10 cents gold. But the worst of it is that the pay is not only meager, but the business is unhealthy and dangerous to a high degree. The fumes of the powder and other things used in the make up of the cracker bring on dread diseases which soon end the career of the poor creatures engaged in the work.

That Whipping

Our readers are no doubt familiar with the dreadful indignity to which an innocent man, Mr. J. F. Woodard, was subjected recently in the town of Washington, N. C., in being horsewhipped by a mob who mistook him for another man. Of course, the hot-headed young men imagined they were very gallant in defending the young lady somebody had insulted, and when they discovered their mistake were very profuse with their apologies, but this did not atone for the shameful act they committed. However, this episode points a great moral, and we are glad the newspapers of the State are pressing it upon the attention of the public. Mobs are reckless and heedless. Mr. Woodard protested his innocence and begged for an opportunity to prove it; this was denied him. Mobs are always cruel, and, for the most part, cowardly. These young men, three against one, laid on the lash without mercy and with no personal danger to themselves. And as the Monroe Journal suggests, suppose they had taken it into their heads to hang their victim? He would have swung from the limb of the first tree, and his family would have suffered the shame of it forever. This occurrence ought to make us pause and think. And good men everywhere ought to be ashamed to give countenance to mob violence or to speak a word in mitigation of the outrages against law and order that are so painfully common among our Southern people. We do not for a moment doubt that the young men in Washington thought they were avenging a foul insult; they were mistaken, and that is the point. We shudder to think how many like mistakes are buried with the bodies of innocent men.—Chapel Hill and Children.

One Woman's Wisdom

He had proposed to the idol of his heart, but things failed to come his way.

"Do you know," he said as he was leaving her presence forever "that you are wringing my heart from my bosom?"

"Possibly," she answered coldly "but it's either that or marry you and wring the bosoms from your shirts in after years."

Favoring the Foreigners

Some of the industries which have received very valuable favors from our government have shown their gratitude by selling their products to the foreigner at much lower prices than they charged in the home market for the same articles.

They sell the foreigner in competition with foreign manufacturers, and presumably make a fair profit on such business. But the protective tariff shuts out foreign competition in our market and we refer to make use of it to raise the prices of their wares to the highest possible point when they come to supply the home market.

An Empty Sack Cannot Stand Upright.

Neither can poor, weak thin blood nourish and sustain the physical system. For strength of nerves and muscles there must be pure, rich, vigorous blood. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the standard preparation for the blood and its many remarkable cures and the fact that it does everybody good who takes it prove it is just what you need if you are weak and languid.

Hood's Pills do not gripe. All

Col. Bryan as an Orator.

We never saw Colonel Bryan and know therefore, nothing of his oratory beyond reports. His campaigning has had no equal in this country. He is beyond any fair doubt a man of most remarkable resource, and readiness and adaptability. We have read several speeches of his that impressed us as excellent in fact, in amplitude of statement, in fullness of information, in richness of comparison and illustration. Not but one or two have particularly struck us for rhetorical cleverness with climactic passages. But those who have heard him who were not prejudiced against him have admitted his fine ability as a speaker. It is nonsense to try to underrate and ridicule him as a campaigner and orator after more than three years of constant speaking. He had made a distinguished mark in the congress before he was heard in that most remarkable speech at Chicago in 1896.

He has been called upon so often that none but a man of extraordinary gifts and resources could have stood the tax upon him, mentally and physically. He has lost nothing by his hundreds of speeches but has held his popularity with wonderful tenacity and rather gained in reputation by the fertility and many-sidedness of his intellectual displays. No man in American history has ever been called upon to bear such a protracted and repeated test of powers as a public speaker. Of course the organs of the money power and the tooters of the brass bands have poked at him jabs and insults but they have fallen powerless before the strength and elevation of his character and the rich funds of the man.

Mr. Bryan has just been speaking at two or three places in Georgia. It furnishes the Atlanta Constitution with a good opportunity to discuss him as an orator. This is done finely, and we may not doubt, justly and aptly. It claims for him that he "ranks as one of the most fluent and effective orators on the public stage of today." It says, and, we suppose, his millions of hearers, will endorse the opinion:

"It is small wonder that with his magnificent qualities of leadership and the righteousness of the cause that he champions, combined with his vital and unusual eloquence, he has succeeded in creating an immense and devoted following in the United States. * * * To the man who has heard the average stump speaker, Mr. Bryan's eloquence is a revelation gratifying and astounding. * * * There are very few demagogues or even republicans whom you can approach and find ignorant of the sentiments of the presidential candidate, and who cannot repeat some of the utterances which gave them to the world. You can pick up a newspaper and read a speech by this same individual, and you will find that not an atom of the fire and stimulating properties has been lost by their transfer to paper. You read, and are electrified and enthused just as though the author was pleading in his most sonorous tones, and you were occupying a front seat drinking in his marvelous eloquence."—Wilmington Messenger.

The Horse's Wonderful Power of Smell

The following from Horse and Stable shows how very keen indeed must the horse's sense of smell: "The horse will leave mustard hay untouched in his bin, however hungry. He will not drink of water objectionable to his question: 'g' shiff, or from a bucket which some odor makes offensive, however thirsty. His intelligent nostril will widen, quiver and query over the faintest bit offered by the fairest of hands, with coaxing that would make a mortal shut his eyes and swallow a nauseous mouthful at a gulp. A mare is never satisfied by either sight or whinny that her colt is really her own until she has a certified nasal certificate to the fact. A blind horse now living will not allow the approach of any stranger without showing signs of anger not safely to be disregarded. The distinction is evidently made by his sense of smell and at a considerable distance. Blind horses as a rule, will gallop wildly about a pasture without striking the surrounding fence. The sense of smell informs them of its proximity. Others will, when loosened from the stable, go directly to the gate or bars opened to their accustomed feeding ground, and when desiring to return, after hours of careless wandering, will distinguish one outlet and patiently await its opening. The odor of that particular part of the fence is their pilot to it. To horse in browsing or while gathering herbage with its lips is guided in its choice of proper food entirely by its nostrils. Blind horses do not make mistakes in their diet."

The Limits of Friendship

Friendship, at its very best and purest, has limits. At its beginning, it seems to have no conditions, and to be capable of endless development. In the flush of new born love it seems almost an insult to question its absolute power to every demand made upon it. The exquisite joy of understanding, and being understood, is too keen to let us believe that there may be a terminal line beyond which we may not pass.

Friendship comes as a mystery, formless, undefined, without set bonds; and it is often a sore experience to discover that it is circumscribed and limited like everything human. At first, to speak of it as having qualifications was a profanation, and to find them out came as a disillusionment.

Yet the discovery is not all a loss. The limitless is also the vague, and it is well to know the exact terms implied in a relationship. Of course, we learn through experience the restrictions on a intimacy, and if we are wise we learn to keep well within the margin; but many a disappointment might have been saved if we had understood the inherent limitations of the subject.

Human friendship has limitations because of the real greatness of man. We are too big to be quite comprehended by another. There is always something in us left unexpressed and unexplored. We do not even know ourselves, much less can another hope to probe into the recesses of our beings.

Friendship has a limit, because of the infinite element in the soul. It is hard to be brought up by a limit along any line, but it is designed to send us a deeper and richer development of our life. Man's limitation is God's occasion. Only God can fully satisfy the hungry heart of man.—High Black.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER

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Makes the food more delicious and wholesome

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

THE YOUNG HOUSEKEEPER.

She Should Find Interest and Pleasure in Her Daily Occupation.

The true advice to give a young restless housekeeper is to put more mind into her work; to find in her daily occupation studies interesting and important, which will surely conduce to her own benefit as well as to the well being of her household," writes Katharine Reich, of the "College Bred Woman in Her Home," in the July Ladies' Home Journal. "She may easily fill her mind with the annoyances, the disagreeable and monotonous details, the confinement, the interruptions of the daily life, but by intelligent use of her time, by systematizing her work, by simplifying her manner of life, and by resolutely seizing her opportunities she will find time for favorite studies and for interest outside of home. Let a woman gird up her intellect and courage—she needs both—to the high office she accepts. Let her not be anxious but cheerful, striving every day to make her work more complete, more perfect, and to win from the daily care the refreshment which she needs. While she may be often weary she will not then be restless nor discontented, realizing that she has secured in her home some of the things best worth striving for. And her friends will see in her own intellectual life and character a richness and sweetness of which she may be quite unconscious. For in the quiet of her home, with its thinking, and planning, and working, the bearing of many cares, and loving, unselfish ministrations for others, there will spring up in herself sincere, generous sympathies, sound judgments, and cultivation of mind and spirit which will prove her best reward."

It may be said that the protected manufacturers are simply following the dictates of human nature and that anybody else under the same circumstances would act just as they do.

This may be true, but the government should not pursue a policy which makes such conduct possible.

An industry which takes advantage of the protective tariff to charge the citizens of the country which has thus favored it more than it charges foreigners for the same sort of products forfeit all claim to the favors and encouragement of the government.—Atlanta Journal.

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Paris, Tenn., Jan. 20th, 1899.

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C. B. IRVINE, Livestock and Feed Dealer.

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W. N. GRIFFITH, Woodland, N. C.

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